



Welcome back to the last term of the school year. I know I reflect on this every year and ask the same question: how did it happen so quickly? However, I always come to the same conclusion – time passes quickly when you are enjoying yourself ☺

With all assessments behind us and amazing progress achieved over the course of the year, we have planned a series of exciting (and varied) curriculum activities, visits and visitors. These are all detailed in the general newsletter but to bring all Class 3 activities together in chronological order may be of assistance:

Monday 4 June	Visit by 'Farmer Brown' and his calf Daisy – link to <i>Click, Clack Moo. Cows That Type.</i>
Thursday 6 June	Magistrates in the Community
Friday 7 June	Orienteering afternoon
Wednesday 13 June	Art/Sports/Science Day with Glen Cosens/Josh Glazier
Thursday 14 June	Art/Sports/Science Day with Glen
Friday 15 June	
Monday 18 June	Martin Young visit
Tuesday 19 June	Y6 Sailing Day at Pitsford Water
Friday 22 June	Art/Sports/Science Day with Glen
Wednesday 27 June	Dance Day with Dave McKenna
Tuesday 3 July	Nissan Technical Centre, Cranfield
Wednesday 4 July	Art/Sports/Science Day with Glen
Friday 6 July (pm)	Sports Day
Monday 9 and Tuesday 10 July	Y5 Bikeability
Friday 13 July	Sharing Assembly
Monday 16-Wednesday 18 July	KS2 Residential
Friday 20 July	Leavers Assembly

Literacy

Week 1: To begin this term we will have a visit by 'Farmer Brown' and his beautiful calf Daisy. This visit has been inspired by last term's work based on the story of Farmer Brown and his mutinous farm animals led by Daisy the cow. Reception children decided last term to write to Farmer Brown inviting him to bring Daisy, his typing cow, along to meet us. Unfortunately, due to the strike action instigated by Daisy, Farmer Brown refused to let her leave the farm. The children from Reception were very upset by his response and set about writing letters of persuasion to the angry farmer in an effort to change his mind. Guess what? It worked and he visited us on the morning of Monday 4 June (luckily Daisy and her herd didn't get up to any more mischief!)

Resulting from the visit, Class 3 will have the opportunity to choose to engage in a variety of independent writing activities. These will range from writing:

- Information texts – typewriting cows
- Instruction texts – how to type if you are a cow
- Discussion texts – were the animals right in striking?
- Recount – Striking Animals Win The Day
- Letters – Thank you letters to Farmer Brown

... and much more.

The children from each class will be engaged for the rest of the week on independent writing activities. A selection will be published as a compilation of work across the school, entitled: *Click, Clack, Moo ... More from Maidwell Primary* which will be available for purchase in the near future.

Following this we will then learn the story entitled *The Way Back Home*, a picture book by Oliver Jeffers. As usual, Martin Young will visit us – on Monday 18 June. He will work with the children to create images which will focus their future writing. This term we will focus on the



opening of stories and look particularly at the role of a helper.

Following the fictional unit we will then move on to the non-fiction text type of *Explanation*. Explanation text is any text that explains actions, ideas or processes to the reader. It is probably the most difficult of text types as you have to be able to understand something very well in order to explain it clearly.

Although difficult, and easily confused with *Instruction*, being able to explain clearly is a particularly valuable skill because it is at the heart of learning. Our explanation will arise from the story and, in the first instance, will involve the children in an analysis of the features of the text, the audience and its purpose. The children will then use this analysis in the Innovation stage before moving on to independent application and the application of skills across the curriculum.

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling

Grammar and Punctuation

This term we will use our newly-developed Grammar Booklets which have been created in order to support the children's understanding of grammatical terms and features. They use icons and actions in order to assist understanding. Grammar will also be taught through the Talk for Writing process.

Please encourage the use of IXL to support/reinforce learning.

Spelling

Please continue to revisit the Key Stage 2 word lists - remember the children can use *SpellAnywhere*.

Reading

Class 3 have continued to enjoy our ever-growing 'page turners' library and we will carry on sharing and publishing the children's reviews when they finish a book. Dedicated page

turner time will still be given to the children and we encourage them to have their books in school every day.

We have just finished our class novel: 'Holes' by Louis Sachar so we will begin reading 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty and hopefully complete it before the end of the school year. When we have the opportunity, we will have whole class 'booktalk' sessions involving lots of discussion, making predictions and focus on deeper inference style questions about certain characters within the book.

Maths

In the final term of the year we will cover the following three units:

Number Sense in which we will explore the relationships between decimals, fractions and percentages and how decimals and fractions fit into the number system. We will focus on the practical application of this knowledge, tackling real-life problems in the process. The children will be taught throughout that percentages, decimals and fractions are different ways of expressing proportions.

Multiplicative Reasoning in which we will solve calculation problems involving multiplication and division in different contexts, including those involving ratio and proportion, appropriately choosing and using operations, number facts, understanding of place value and mental and written methods. The children will be encouraged to explain their decisions and use the skills of approximation and reasonableness to improve their levels of accuracy.

Geometric Reasoning in which the children will revisit how to find the area, perimeter and volume of shapes. They will compare and classify shapes and solve problems. Ratio and proportion will be visited again as children will be asked to solve problems involving similar shapes where the scale factor is known or can be found.

Continuing use of IXL at home to embed the concepts taught in school and practising them in different contexts is of huge value. Those children who regularly visit IXL for 10/15

minutes per day can be seen to make progress at an accelerated pace.

Don't forget *Timestables Rockstars*: Speedy recall of multiplication facts is the key to the development of mental maths capability leading to an increase in confidence levels and success in all areas of maths. SIMPLE!

Science

This term we will continue to focus on healthy lifestyles supported by diet and exercise through our Sports/Science/Art project led by Glen and supported by Josh. We will look at the history of nutrition and the problems experienced in the past through the development of scurvy and rickets. We'll look at the work of the scientist John Boyd and use evidence to draw conclusions with regards to nutrition, health and growth.

For the rest of the term we will work on a topic entitled *Classifying Critters* which focuses on Living Things and their Habitats. During this topic the children will focus on the following:

- The understanding of scientific classification
- The difference between vertebrates and invertebrates
- The differences between plants and animals
- That fungi are one of the five kingdoms of living things

We will also link back to last term's work on microbes and the work of Edward Jenner by revisiting the fact that microbes and fungi can be harmful and helpful.

Finally we will research the life of Carl Linnaeus and use a branching key, similar to his classification system.

Computing

This term Class 3 are going to build on our Microsoft Excel skills from last term and combine it with creating surveys and looking at gathering, analysing and interpreting data. The findings of the children's market research will

then be presented in a report using different types of software to create graphs, charts and tables within their report.

- Targets:
- Create a set of good survey questions using appropriate software
 - Analyse the data obtained from their survey
 - Create tables, charts and graphs
 - Write a report for a specific target audience

History

Hopefully the children in Class 2 and 3 have spent some time over the holidays exploring our next History topic: *Prehistoric Britain – The Stone Age through to The Iron Age*. The children will be able to share their findings then throughout the term. We will look at how people survived each of the Ages; focus on Stonehenge - what it is and how it was built; why hillforts were so popular and who the Druids were.

Art/DT

Glen Cosens will be visiting for several art days this term. She will be creating murals (for the playground) which will remind the children about taking care of the various systems in our bodies. The artwork will then form part of an exercise circuit around the playground.

RE

This term we will continue with our topic entitled *Whose World Is It?* We will look at a number of stories of creation from different religions and explore the impact that religion can have on people's lifestyles. We will also look at a non-religious answer to the question of how the world was created and reflect upon and respond to the scientific account of how the world began. Finally we will reflect on our own views and empathise with a range of different views.

Spanish

¡Hola a todos! (Hello everyone!). I hope you have all had a lovely half term break.

During the last part of this term, children in Years 5 and 6 will continue with the topic of hobbies. They will learn how to say which hobbies they like/dislike, using 'me gusta' + the infinitive verb. Also, they will prepare a presentation/poster about themselves in Spanish including the hobbies and interests they have.

Lastly, I would like to wish the Year 6 children who are leaving, a very happy and successful time at their Secondary school and I hope one day the Spanish they've learnt at school will become very useful! All the best to them.

Music

For the final half term of the year the children will develop and demonstrate their musical skills, knowledge and understanding. They will revisit various forms of notation and develop an understanding of the process of composing by creating and performing music in response to musical and non-musical stimuli. They will also explore how they feel about music they hear and express preferences.

PE

Our PE sessions will be swimming on a Monday afternoon and PE with the coach on a Thursday afternoon. Please ensure your child has their complete PE kit in school including outdoor footwear (separate from their normal school shoes). PE is an essential, not optional, part of the school curriculum and as such we will always take every step possible to ensure your child can take part. Please note it is also not acceptable for children to wear items of their school uniform such as polo shirt/shoes as their PE kit..

The focus for this half term's Unit of Work is **Personal Skills**, with a physical focus on *Coordination with Equipment and Agility: Ball Chasing*. The learning goals for this unit are;

- I can create my own learning plan and revise that plan when necessary. I can accept critical feedback and make changes
- I see all new challenges as opportunities to learn and develop. I recognise my strengths and weaknesses and can set myself appropriate targets
- I cope well and react positively when things become difficult. I can persevere with a task and I can improve my performance through regular practice

PSHE

We will continue to focus on creating a positive/growth mindset in all of the children. We will look at people who are famous who did not achieve success in the beginning and link this to our daily failures/successes.

